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The foreign relations of the United States. Part I: 1. *The democratic ideal in world organization.* 2. *Future Pan-American relations.* Part II: 3. *Future relations with the Far East.* 4. *Investments and concessions as causes of international conflict.* Proceedings of the Academy of Political Science in the City of New York, vol. VII, nos. 2-3, edited by H. R. MUSSEY and S. P. DUGGAN. (New York: Published by the Academy. 1917. Pp. xxxi, 331; vi, 129. \$1.50.)

A series of addresses and papers presented at the National Conference on Foreign Relations of the United States at Long Beach, N. Y., May 28-June 1, 1917. The following articles are included: "Economic access and neutralization of waterways," by J. Russell Smith; "Labor as a factor in the newer conception of international relationships," by Jane Addams; "Socialism and the terms of peace," by Meyer London; "Commercial and financial interests of the United States in the Caribbean," by Edwin M. Borchard; "Commercial and financial agencies of Pan-American Union," by James Carson; "Land ownership by aliens," by Hans von Kaltenborn; and five papers on "Investments and concessions as causes of international conflict."

Review of the historical publications relating to Canada. University of Toronto studies, vol. XXI. (Toronto. 1917. Pp. 192.)

Contains twenty-seven items under the head of geography, economics and statistics, including several on Canadian railroads and a number on Canada in relation to the war.

L'effort économique de la France pendant deux ans et demi de guerre. (Paris: Berger-Levrault. 1917. 1.50 fr.)

Agriculture, Mining, Forestry, and Fisheries

Introduction to Rural Sociology. By PAUL L. VOGT. (New York: D. Appleton and Company. 1917. Pp. xvi, 443. \$2.00.)

Not long ago the reviewer was discussing with a well-known sociologist the place of rural sociology as a subject of study and instruction. "I am not sure there is such a thing," said he. "To me rural sociology is more or less mythical. I've been prospecting for several years and recently I've had several graduate students and two trained investigators surveying the field—and *I haven't struck pay dirt yet.*"

Rural sociology is a very new subject—and a very ambitious one—but perhaps few economists or sociologists today will deny the existence of a distinctively rural field of sociological study; and a few, at least, dignify it with the title of social science. But whatever the status of the subject, this *Introduction to Rural*

Sociology certainly indicates "pay dirt." Just what percentage of rural sociology it will assay depends somewhat on the chapter chosen as a sample, but it is "pay dirt."

Moreover, we have here sociological materials, typical data, suggestively rich fields for further exploration—leads rather than actual veins; indications rather than fixed conclusions. Some of these data are original and thought-provoking as, for example, the chapters on Population Movement and Rural Morality. Some are not sufficient for generalization; notably those dealing with the land question, tenancy and farmers' organizations. All exemplify the inductive method—facts before conclusions.

No formal definition of rural sociology is attempted, but the titles of the chapters indicate its ramifications. Physical environment, farm machinery, good roads, size of farms, tenant right, farmers' incomes, rural health, insanity, morals, rural politics, essentials of successful economic coöperation among farmers, schools and other educational agencies, county farm bureaus, the country church, the county fair, the village (in six chapters), rural organization and leadership, are some of the topics discussed. All of these are in greater or less degree related to rural social welfare, just as all of them are somehow related to land values or the purchase of a farm. Perhaps this is sufficient reason for considering them subjects of sociological study and investigation.

The author approaches the subject from the point of view of the rural Middle West. His own contributions are chiefly from Ohio, although many of his data and illustrative materials are from other states or countries. Since the body of data presented is necessarily meager, this narrowing of the field strengthens rather than weakens his tentative conclusions. In suggesting remedies or projecting programs of improvement, however, the author does not always keep in mind these geographic limits.

The chapters on the village are a distinct contribution to sociological literature. The American village has been too little considered both as a factor in rural life and as a center or starting point for rural improvement. Recent fugitive studies indicate that the field of rural government deserves particular attention, not only by students but by citizens. Rural sanitation, rural health, village planning, and community recreational facilities are closely related to or dependent upon village organization or municipal government. "The evidence from a survey of modern tendencies indicates that the time is ad-

vancing when some of the brightest products of modern civilization are going to find their source and development in the quiet, rational, cultured existence of the American village, renewed, revivified, proud of its advantages, and offering those satisfactions which answer to the most fundamental cravings of human nature." If this quotation is true, it shows the way to a comparatively new point of study and attack—indications which county farm bureaus, social workers and rural social engineers may well follow. If true, even in part, the author has done well to emphasize the importance of a hitherto neglected social and political grouping.

The book is well written with a fresh, virile, optimistic pen. It is purposely constructive. The author is imbued with the idea that data, statistics, materials, facts, should form the basis or starting point of a progressive program; that rural sociological research finds its justification in rural social service. Nearly every chapter ends with a list of remedial measures or a program of rural social advancement. Because of its basis of fact, its general freedom from dogmatic statement, its constructive intent, its modest claims and its virility, this is the most valuable book dealing with rural sociology the reviewer has read.

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The Organization of the Lumber Industry. With Special Reference to the Influences Determining the Prices of Lumber in the United States. By WILSON COMPTON. (Chicago: American Lumberman. 1916. Pp. x, 153.)

The present military need of spruce for aeroplanes, of yellow pine for cantonments, and of Douglas fir for wooden ships has again brought lumber into the limelight, and books which seek to explain the peculiar conditions existing in the industry find ready circulation. Economists in particular will be interested in the present volume both because it contains a wealth of detailed information nowhere else so easily accessible and because it employs a method of price determination which differs in some important respects from the so-called orthodox theory.

In the introductory chapter Dr. Compton briefly reviews the lumber industry historically, emphasizing such topics as price influences, leading characteristics, labor conditions, etc. Chapters 2 and 3 depict the organization on the side of production and con-